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Message Text

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61
ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NSA-01

SCCT-01 NEA-06 SAB-01 EB-04 AID-05 SY-04 ARA-06 EA-06

EUR-12 IO-10 A-01 /107 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:AMB. BREWER/DFWATERMAN:IJG
APPROVED BY P - JOSEPH J. SISCO
AF - AMB. MULCAHY (SUBS)
M - AMB. BROWN (SUBS)
AF/E - MR. COOTE (SUBS)
NEA - MR. SAUNDERS (SUBS)
S/PRS - MR. HARE (SUBS)
S/CCT - AMB. HOFFACKER (SUBS)
S/S:REWOODS
---------- 099678
P 140310Z NOV 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 250981

INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, SU
SUBJECT: RETURN OF AMBASSADOR TO KHARTOUM

1. IN VIEW OF GENERAL FOREIGN SERVICE INTEREST IN KHARTOUM TRAGEDY AND ITS AFTERMATH, DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE ALL PERSONNEL TO KNOW RATIONALE BEHIND DECISION TO AUTHORIZE AMBASSADOR BREWER RETURN SUDAN AFTER ABSENCE OF FOUR MONTHS. ANNOUNCEMENT OF AMBASSADOR'S RECALL FOR CONSULTATIONS WAS CONTAINED IN ACTING SECRETARY'S STRONG STATEMENT OF JUNE 25 IN WAKE OF PRESIDENT NIMEIRI'S DECISION TO RELEASE TO PLO THE MURDERERS OF CLEO NOEL AND CURT MOORE.
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FOLLOWING PARAS EXPLAIN REASONS FOR AMBASSADOR BREWER'S

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RETURN, NOVEMBER 12. IN EVENT QUESTIONS ARE RAISED RELATED TO NEWS OF AMBASSADOR'S RETURN, POSTS SHOULD RESPOND THAT RETURN CONNOTES NEITHER DIMINISHED USG INTEREST IN CONTINUED DETENTION OF THE KHARTOUM ASSASSINS NOR RESUMPTION OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN.

2. SUDAN GOVERNMENT (GOS) IS WELL AWARE USG DISPLEASURE OVER DECISION TO RELEASE KHARTOUM TERRORISTS. (THEY ARE CURRENTLY UNDER DETENTION IN EGYPT.) AMBASSADOR'S PROLONGED ABSENCE FROM POST AND USG DECISION NOT TO PROCEED WITH VARIOUS ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ANTICIPATED BY SUDANESE HAVE BROUGHT HOME TO GOS OUR STRONG DISPLEASURE. THEREFORE, NO PURPOSE IS SERVED BY KEEPING OUR AMBASSADOR ABSENT FROM HIS POST. IN CONTEXT OF CON-

TINUING EFFORTS ACHIEVE LASTING PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST THERE SOME ADVANTAGE IN RESTORING HIGH LEVEL CONTACT WITH RELATIVELY MODERATE SUDANESE LEADERSHIP.

3. WE INTEND AT THIS TIME TO MAINTAIN OUR POLICY OF HOLDING IN ABEYANCE PLANS AND REQUESTS FOR US ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE, EX-IM FINANCING, ETC., FOR PROJECTS IN SUDAN. ONLY ONGOING PROJECTS OF A HUMANITARIAN NATURE WOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR POSSIBLE USG ASSISTANCE. THEREFORE, RETURN OF AMBASSADOR DOES NOT CONNOTE QUOTE BUSINESS AS USUAL, END QUOTE CHANGE OF ATTITUDE TOWARD GOS ACTION, OR RESUMPTION OF PRE-JUNE RELATIONSHIP.

4. WE ARE TAKING STEPS TO RE-EMPHASIZE, AS APPROPRIATE, THAT THE AMBASSADOR'S RETURN SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS ANY LESSENING OF INTEREST ON PART OF USG AND AMERICAN PUBLIC IN PUNISHMENT OF KHARTOUM MURDERS OR IN OUR RESOLVE TO COMBAT TERRORISM. IF AMBASSADOR'S RETURN EVOKES PRESS QUERIES, DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN IS PREPARED TO MAKE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: QUOTE AFTER ABSENCE OF FOUR AND ONE HALF MONTHS, AMBASSADOR BREWER HAS NOW RETURNED TO HIS POST IN KHARTOUM. HE WAS RECALLED FOR CONSULTATION LAST JUNE WHEN SUDAN RELEASED TO CUSTODY IN EGYPT THE EIGHT MEN FOUND GUILTY OF MURDERING AMBASSADOR NOEL AND HIS DEPUTY CURTIS MOORE IN MARCH, 1973. AMBASSADOR BREWER'S RETURN
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INDICATES NO BASIC CHANGE IN THE US ATTITUDE OF DISAPPROVAL OF THIS SUDANESE ACTION. ONE RESULT OF AMBASSADOR BREWER'S CONSULTATION HAS BEEN A DECISION TO RESTRICT US AID ACTIVITIES IN THE SUDAN AND TO HOLD IN ABEYANCE ANY PLANS FOR ADDITIONAL US FINANCIAL OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. AMBASSADOR BREWER'S RETURN DOES NOT CHANGE THIS SITUATION. END QUOTE.

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5. FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE ASSURED THAT DEPARTMENT IS CONTINUING REVIEW ITS EFFORTS TO PROTECT THEM FROM RISKS OF TERRORISM AND TO REDUCE POSSIBILITY OF OUTRAGES SUCH AS SUDANESE QUOTE RELEASE END QUOTE OF CONFESSED KILLERS. KISSINGER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Type: TE
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